

The Diocese of Rupert's Land  
Diocesan Council

Minutes

November 26, 2016  
St. John's Cathedral, Winnipeg

Present = Y      Regrets = R      Absent = A      (\*) = *ex officio*      (a) = *appointed*

Y	Bardsley, The Ven. James*	R	McIntosh, The Rev. Wayne
Y	Braid, Mr. E. Arthur*	Y	Norman, Mrs. Patricia
Y	Cooke, Mr. David	R	Pawling, Mr. Gordon*
Y	Dolloff, The Rev. John	Y	Phillips, The Rt. Rev. Donald*
Y	Dugan, The Ven. James*	Y	Robinson, Theresa
Y	Falconer, The Rev. Canon Henry	Y	Russell, Mr. Gary
Y	Fardoe, Mr. Don	R	Sherman, Mr. Dorian
Y	Horrocks, Mrs. Norma	R	Sisson, The Ven. Jennifer*
Y	Hunter, The Rev. Deacon Helen	Y	Still, The Rev. Canon Murray
Y	Johnson, The Very Rev. Paul*	R	Thagard, Mrs. Claudine
Y	Kennedy, The Rev. Helen	R	Thagard, The Rev. Deacon Dan
Y	Kwajok, Mr. Kwajok Jada	Y	Trott, Dr. Christopher* (Warden St. John's College)
R	Laldin, The Rev. Karen	Y	Webster, Ms Tannis
Y	Lampman, The Rev. Paul	Y	Wedlake, Mr. Bob* (Secretary of Synod)
Y	Larson, Mrs. Barbara		Staff:
Y	Lomas, Mrs. Louise	Y	Funk, Ms Bernice – Director of Finance
Y	MacDonald, The Rev. Deacon Lynn	R	Solomon, The Rev. Vincent – UIMD
Y	Mawejje, The Ven. Godfrey*	Y	Suppes, Mrs. Susan - Secretary

The meeting opened with welcome to all members by the Bishop and a brief explanation of our worship. The Dean, Paul Johnson, lead opening worship which included an abbreviated form of Gospel-based discipleship. The regrets were read, followed by introductions of members with their name, parish and a statement responding to: What do you hope to get out of Diocesan Council or What do you hope to offer to the Council – (in other words, “Why did you allow your name to be put into nomination?”) Members were asked to keep and display their name cards, at each meeting. A print-out of the information on file from the Diocesan data base was circulated. Members were invited to share corrections or preferred contact information.

Authority and Responsibility of Diocesan Council:

The Bishop reminded members of the Council of one of the decisions of Synod, that in every committee, board, gathering, body that meets, we are to discuss what it means to meet in a “culture of grace”. Discussion on this is deferred to the January meeting.

The Bishop provided a brief commentary on the responsibilities of the Diocesan Council and Executive Committee. By the Constitution, Council is the Synod between Synods. Council has the right and the responsibility to undertake decisions and give leadership in the two year time between Synods. The only thing a Council cannot do is change the Canons – that right is reserved for Synod. The Diocesan Council can act on decisions as guided by the Synod, when guidelines are provided, and are bound by the Canons in undertaking actions. Council is responsible for the policy and strategy decisions. We are not a vestry, were not an AGM, but the Council leans more to the larger decisions. Building consensus is important, and although we may not make a lot of decisions, the Council meetings may have considerable discussion which helps shape policy as the leadership body of the Church between Synod.

The Council is also responsible, with the bishop, to discern direction for the diocese, and input from this body is important to enable the ministry of the Diocese and Bishop. The Council meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> month, except in the summer.

Staff do not vote, but do offer valuable input and often provide clarity and background for Council. The Rev. Vincent Solomon (Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer) may attend meetings as able and when asked. The Secretary of Synod is a member (non-voting) of the Council. The Warden of St. John's College is a member of Council, with vote. The Vice-Chancellor is a member of Council, when acting in the place of the Chancellor. The Council has authority by the Constitution to appointed up to six additional members of Council but we will not be considering appointments at this time.

#### Meeting Schedule for Diocesan Council 2017:

MOTION: THAT the meeting dates for Diocesan Council for 2017 be approved.

P. Norman/K. Kwajok

Carried.

#### Election of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is charged with responsibility for the 'day to day' operations of the Diocese. It makes decisions based on policy which has been set by the Council, and carries out instructions given by Council. The Executive Committee is responsible for the agenda for the Council meeting, and considers matters coming to the Council to ensure Council has sufficient information on which to make its decisions. Often times, the Executive Committee will make recommendations to the Diocesan Council on matters before the Council. The responsibilities and authority of the Executive Committee is also outlined in the Constitution. The Executive Committee has all the powers of the Council between Council meetings, but exercises this authority with caution and mostly only in times where time is of the essence. The Executive Committee consists of three lay and three clergy elected from among the members of Diocesan Council. The territorial archdeacons, the Dean, Bishop, Treasurer, and Chancellor are ex officio (members by virtue of their office) on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee meets monthly, normally on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:00 pm and requires its members to be able to attend day-time meetings.

The Bishop declared nominations open for lay members for the Executive Committee. The following persons were nominated: Claudine Thagard, Tannis Webster (declined), Pat Norman, Gary Russell, Chris Trott (declined)

MOTION: THAT nominations close.

L. MacDonald/A. Braid

Carried.

The following lay persons were acclaimed to the Executive Committee: Mrs. Claudine Thagard, Mrs. Pat Norman, Mr. Gary Russell

The Bishop declared nominations open for clergy members for the Executive Committee.

The following persons were nominated: The Rev. Helen Kennedy, The Rev. Deacon Dan Thagard, The Rev. Deacon Lynn MacDonald, The Rev. John Dolloff, The Rev. Canon Henry Falconer, The Rev. Deacon Helen Hunter (declined), The Rev. Canon Murray Still.

MOTION: THAT Nominations close

G. Maweije/C. Trott

Carried

Members voted by secret ballot. The Rev. Canon Henry Falconer and the Rev. Helen Kennedy were declared elected to the Executive Committee, while John Dolloff and Murray Still tied for the third spot. Balloting by secret ballot was undertaken to break the tie between the Rev. Canon Murray Still and the Rev. John Dolloff. The Rev. John Dolloff was declared elected to the Executive Committee.

The following clergy members were elected to the Executive Committee:

The Rev. Canon Henry Falconer and the Rev. Helen Kennedy and the Rev. John Dolloff.

Minutes of the Diocesan Council Meeting of September 14, 2016:

The secretary presented the minutes and asked members to make two changes (page 2 and page 4): one to the compensation report which should state “to within 5 cents of the Federal rate” and the other was a typographical change and adding a word.

MOTION: THAT the minutes be approved as amended.

C. Trott/H.Kennedy

Carried.

Acts of Synod:

The Bishop began by saying that this past Synod worked hard and arising from their work the rest of us now have lots to do. He, along with the Secretary of Synod, has looked through the resolutions and wishes to propose ways of dispensing with the resolutions of Synod.

A – 1 - Treaty Land

This resolution calls us to get into the practice of acknowledgement that we are meeting on Treaty Land. In Winnipeg, this is Treaty One Land, in Ontario, it is Treaty Three Land. The Rev. Vincent Solomon has suggested the wording we used here today to open our meeting (see agenda). The suggestion for this resolution is that we circulate to parishes this resolution with some suggested text, or advise they can use any other text which will accomplish the same end.

Discussion: Resolution said: Métis people –this wording uses Métis Nation. We need to check this out with First Nations people; we should also ask the Manitoba Métis Federation what word they would use. It was suggested we drop the use of the word ‘people’ (nation) all together and simply say ‘Anishinaabe, Cree, Dakota and homeland of the Metis’. (Ontario area is not homeland of the Métis). Simply stating Treaty One is not valid as it is Treaty Three in Ontario. The wording is causing us to engage in conversation about this – having the conversation is one of the values. Perhaps we should be asking our congregations to engage in a conversation and to adopt something that works for them. We need to be faithful to the resolution, in developing our acknowledgement.

Perhaps we need to ask parishes and diocesan meetings to devise something that meets the criteria of Resolution A – 1 (here’s what you need to cover - Treaty land, and the Métis). Each statement may need to be adapted for its locale.

AGREED: That we will send the motion out with a sample text, drawing attention to the different treaties, and the understanding of Métis may be different.

*Writer’s Note: The secretary has checked with the Rev. Vincent Solomon who understands that the different treaty numbers need to be used according to where the meeting is being held. He advised that had checked the wording of the “statement” with the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre before offering this wording to the Bishop for use for our purposes and they approved it. Furthermore, the Manitoba Métis Federation refers to themselves as the homeland of the Métis nation (not people).*

*The reference to the homeland of the Métis Nation would not be applicable to meetings being held in the Kenora – St. Alban Archdeaconry.*

A – 2 Developing a ‘culture of grace’

The Bishop will come up with a template (perhaps some generic questions) to help each group who meets discover what it means for us, in our setting, to ‘develop a culture of grace’. This motion was referred to the Bishop for action.

A – 3 Discipleship, Missional community and Stewardship be foundational themes.

This motion is proposed to be referred to the Bishop to work with the Associates in Episcopal Ministry to assist parishes to use these themes to help them bring focus to what they are doing.

MOTION: THAT

H. Kennedy/ Resolution A – 1 be sent to out with a sample text, drawing attention to the different  
G. Russell treaties, and the understanding of Métis may be different;  
Resolution A – 2 be referred to the Bishop  
Resolution A – 3 be referred to the Bishop to work with the Associates in Episcopal  
Ministry.

Carried.

B-1 – (Referred by Synod to Council)

This resolution is scheduled to be discussed at January 2017 meeting of Diocesan Council when members of the Diocesan Local Collaborative Ministry Team (DLCMG) will be present to help us understand issues around this.

B – 2 through 9 - Diocesan Staff will update the Canons as appropriate. Copies of the Updated canons will be circulated to parishes, and posted on the Diocesan Website.

B - 12

MOTION: THAT B-12 be referred to the Theological Education Implementation Group for  
C.Trott/ consideration and comment in the context of the work on which they are about to  
H. Kennedy embark.

Carried.

B – 13

Clarification was asked about what it means by ‘permanent funding’? The response was that it is interpreted to mean: there is a permanent (on-going) commitment to this, but not a commitment to funding (otherwise the resolution would have been ruled out of order for Synod, as there are guidelines around motions of synod requiring money). The resolution does not require us to put any funds into this, but we could put funds into something. The concept is to keep the diocese committed to ministry with indigenous people. We need to work cooperatively with other agencies in this regard.

MOTION: THAT B – 13 be referred to the Bishop and the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer to  
C. Trott/ take this resolution to the ‘newly re-constituted diocesan indigenous body when re-  
P. Lampman established’ and request that this becomes part of its mandate.

Carried.

A comment was made that we need to get on with this work, and delay no longer.

B - 14

MOTION: THAT resolution B-14 be referred to the Bishop, the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer and Warden of St. John's College to draw together some resources and circulate these to parishes for their use.  
H. Falconer/  
L. MacDonald  
Carried.

B – 15 Study of the present model of governance with a view to recognizing the value of the sacred process of the Circle.

MOTION: THAT B-15 be referred to a Task Force (to be established of approx. 6 persons) comprised of people who are both aware of our current model of governance and have an understanding of the process of the circle.  
P. Johnson/  
H. Falconer  
Carried.

Council members offered names of people who might be considered for the task force. These names, along with those suggested at the Executive Committee meeting, will be considered by the Executive Committee who will name the Task Force and report back to Diocesan Council. It was also suggested that we make use of consultants as necessary.

C – 1

MOTION: THAT C – 1 be referred to the Theological Education Implementation Group, and a letter be sent to the Acting chair of the Diocesan Discernment Group on Ordained Ministry advising that motion has been passed by Synod as a requirement.  
H. Kennedy/  
T. Webster  
Carried.

The Theological Education Implementation Group can decide how this resolution can be implemented. As of October it is understood that cultural awareness training needs to take place.

C – 2 June designated Indigenous Awareness Month.

MOTION: THAT resolution C-2 be referred to the Bishop to work with others to provide resources for parish use during the month of June, and that information be available by the end of March 2017.  
G. Russell/  
N. Horrocks  
Carried.

C – 3 Freedom Road

This resolution has already been dispatched by a letter from the Bishop to the appropriate parties. It was requested that the Bishop publish the letter or make it available on the website.

C – 4 Anglican Foundation

The Diocese has implemented a policy of not considering grant applications from parishes that do not have a history/membership in the Foundation. The Anglican Foundation has just approved a like policy that the Foundation will not consider applications from parishes/dioceses who are not members of the Foundation.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council refer C – 4 to Executive Committee to develop a strong and intentional process to encourage parishes and individuals to become members of the Foundation.  
H. Hunter/  
P. Norman  
Carried.

A suggestion was made that we find someone to be a 'champion' for the Anglican Foundation (similar to a Diocesan PWRDF representative) who could visit parishes and hope to get more information out. The secretary noted that the Key Messages from Council get the message to parishes about what the Council

has done. The Secretary of Synod advised he will bring a status update on these resolutions to the September 2017 meeting of the Diocesan Council.

Mission and Ministry Trust Funds - Archdeaconry of Kenora/St. Alban

The Ven. James Dugan explained how the funds in the Mission and Ministry Trust came to be, indicating they were assets of the Diocese of Keewatin that were distributed based on a formula and allocated to the three regions of that Diocese. This region placed the funds in a trust fund to be held by the Diocese of Rupert's Land and administered by the Archdeaconry. Grants can be made from interest or capital, but not for bricks and mortar (projects), but for mission and ministry programs and for new and innovative initiatives.

A grant from this Fund initially supported a consultation for individuals and agencies working with people in poverty helping them develop ways in which they can collaborate. An ongoing grant is being recommended to a group called EPIC "Every Person In Community". This has been embraced by social service agencies and the church has operated as a 'spark plug' for this on-going ministry.

This fall the Deanery Council is requesting funding for the following programs:

\$3000 – to help fund the Companion Diocese delegates who came to visit this fall;

\$15,930 – Twice Is Nice – clothing ministry, supplement for salary for two workers;

\$6,700 – Blessings in a Back Pack to expand healthy food supplements for school children in Ignace;

\$1070 – to fund the Archdeacon to attend the International Partnership of Living Stones

MOTION: THAT a grant of \$26,700 be authorized from the Mission & Ministry Trust fund for the following programs:

J. Dugan/  
B Larson

\$3000 – to help fund the Companion Diocese delegates who came to visit this fall;

\$15,930 – Twice Is Nice – clothing ministry, supplement for salary for two workers;

\$6,700 – Blessings in a Back Pack to expand healthy food supplements for school children in Ignace;

\$1070 – To fund the Archdeacon to attend the International Partnership of Living Stones gathering.

Carried.

The Archdeacon noted the closing balance of the Trust Fund, which is invested with Integra Capital Management through the Diocese of Rupert's Land, is \$303,609.

Compensation Committee:

The Compensation Committee was asked to re-consider the 'per diem' rate for hotels in Ontario. The current rate of \$100 for lodging is not sufficient for this region of Ontario.

MOTION: THAT, on the recommendation of the Compensation Committee the per diem rate for lodging be increased from \$100 to \$130 plus applicable taxes when accommodations are required in the Ontario region.

P. Johnson/

Carried.

Sick Leave: The Diocese has learned that some parishes have not initiated a sick day policy. It is imperative that the diocese has a minimum standard that parishes can follow. Therefore the following motion is recommended by the Compensation Committee:

MOTION: THAT an interim policy be implemented with a minimum standard of 30 days sick leave be instituted for clergy, and that this sick leave policy be non-cumulative.

P. Norman/  
Carried

#### Appointment of the Compensation Committee:

The four current members have been asked if they will allow their names to be put forward for reappointment. All have agreed. The Committee still requires one additional cleric.

The current members are: Dr. David Punter, (Chair) Dr. June James, Mrs. Pat Norman, The Very Rev. Paul Johnson

MOTION: THAT the following members be re-appointed as members of the Diocesan L. MacDonald/ Compensation Committee for a further two-year term (2016-2018).  
T. Webster Dr. David Punter,(Chair) Dr. June James, Mrs. Pat Norman, The Very Rev. Paul Johnson.  
Carried.

The Executive Committee will be asked to consider another clergy member and bring that name to the January meeting of the Diocesan Council for ratification.

#### Report of the Finance Committee:

Director of Finance, Bernice Funk, gave an abbreviated report due to time constraints. She advised new members that the Diocese of Rupert's Land has funds with Integra Capital Management. The Diocese has a policy of drawing 4% from this fund annually for the Operating Fund of the Diocese. Investment earnings to date are 6.3%. The Diocese also holds some short term investments with CIBC. CIBC has notified the Diocese that they will be refunding \$977 to our account because they charged us too much in management fees.

#### Financial Statements to September 30, 2016

Ms Funk reported that Revenue is \$591,365 and expenses are \$589,996 leaving us with a surplus of \$1399 to September 30, 2016. She indicated the last page of the statements contains good notes to help understand the statements, and she was willing to answer any questions members may have.

MOTION: THAT the Financial Statements to September 30, 2016 be received.  
A.Braid/H. Falconer  
Carried.

Bishop announced that the Rev. Allison Courey, Media Coordination RLNews concluded her position with the Diocese recently and a new person, Mrs. Kyla Neufeld, (of saint benedict's table mission) has been appointed Editor of the Rupert's Land News. Kyla has done extensive work in Christian media on-line and print media, and will work with Allison in December, and will take over in January. The Bishop indicated he was pleased with the quality of the applicants.

The Bishop announced that the Diocese is also seeking a person to work two days a week in the diocesan office assisting in accounting and administration. The person who had recently been in this role has left the position.

#### Members concerns:

A question was asked about clarification on Study Leave. This person was referred to the Clergy Handbook on the website where this information is outlined.

The Bishop asked member of the Council to remember the Rev. Canon Brad Elliott in their prayers during this time of illness. Bishop recently conferred the office of Canon on Brad.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Paul Lampman. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm

29/11/16

SS/ss